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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert HALLOWITZ *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/296,534 *mgm*

Examiner: R. Zeman

Filed: April 22, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1645

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR DETERMINING LATENT VIRAL LOAD



#6a 5/15/00
T. Gray

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2000 (Paper No. 5), please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks:

In the Specification:

Amend the specification as follows:

Page 17, line 7: Change "was" to --is--.

line 12: Change "were" to --are--.

line 13: Change "were" to --are--.

line 14: Change "were" to --are--.

In the Claims:

Amend the claims as follows:

F
1. (Amended) A method of determining the latent viral load in a host infected with HIV comprising,

[treating] **contacting** resting lymphoid mononuclear cells obtained from the host with an effective amount of an agent [capable of activating] which activates an HIV virus integrated into the genome of the cells; and